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First Nations Schoolnet

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Canada On-line

First Nations SchoolNet

What is it?

First Nations SchoolNet (FNS) gives First Nations communities the opportunity to use exciting new technologies by providing schools with an affordable, high-speed connection to the Internet via DirecPC™ satellite terminals. To date, 80 percent of eligible schools are participating. Helping Canadians become connected to the Internet is part of Connecting Canadians, the Government of Canada's vision and plan to make Canada the most connected country in the world.

Who's involved?

FNS is part of the broader SchoolNet initiative of Industry Canada's Information Highway Applications Branch. The work is being led by Industry Canada in partnership with the Assembly of First Nations, Canadian telecommunications companies through the

former Stentor Alliance, and First Nations schools and communities.

The installation and use of FNS equipment is also supported by a network of help desks located in First Nations organizations or Aboriginal businesses across the country.

FNS also supports the First Nations Web site on SchoolNet, developed and maintained by the First Nations Confederacy of Cultural Education Centres.

How does it work?

All eligible schools (i.e., schools under federal jurisdiction) receive information packages on FNS. They can then contact SchoolNet to make arrangements. Equipment is sent to the schools and contact is made with the closest help desk to help support installation. Funding is also put in place to support Internet access and long distance expenses (where applicable).



For more information, please contact:
Telephone: 1-800-575-9200
TTY: 1-800-465-7735
Web site: <http://www.schoolnet.ca/aboriginal>

"We created our own community Web site at the school to showcase information about our Algonquin culture and heritage. It includes information about powwows, band council meetings, community updates and much more. We also use it to increase awareness of First Nations culture and history."


***Sunshine Tenasco and Kristy Whiteduck,
Kitigan Zibi First Nation, Quebec***



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